

REMARKS

Claims 1, 10, and 11 are amended, claims 58-103 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 104-106 are added; as a result, claims 1-57 and claims 104-106 are now pending in this application, where claims 1-12 and 104-106 are elected in response to a restriction requirement for pending examination. The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. No new matter is introduced. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments above and the remarks that follow.

Response to Restriction Requirement

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on 4 August 2004, Applicant elects Group I, Species I that includes claims 1-12. Applicant respectfully withdraws claims 13-56 without prejudice and reserves the right to reintroduce claims 13-56 for reconsideration in this application upon the allowance of a linking claim or to reintroduce them in a divisional application at a later date. Applicant respectfully cancels claims 58-103 without prejudice or disclaimer and reserves the right to reintroduce claims 58-103 for reconsideration in a divisional application at a later date.

Claims 104-106 are added and do not introduce new matter. Claims 104-106 are in line with the subject matter of claim 1.

Applicant traverses the portion of the restriction requirement stating that currently there is no generic claim. Applicant submits that claim 1 is generic and linked to claims 2-56, as evidenced by dependent claims 104-106, and respectfully requests consideration of the withdrawn claims upon allowance of the generic claim (37 C.F.R. 1.141(a)).

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Serial Number: 10/634,274

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Title: H2 Plasma Treatment

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Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 371-2157 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By his Representatives,

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Date 27 December 2004 By


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Reg. No. 46,632

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 28 day of December, 2004.

Name

Tina Kohaut

Signature

Z. U. A.